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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson, January 26, 1799, from Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe Correspondence, Transcribed and Edited by Gerard W. Gawalt, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

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James Monroe to Thomas Jefferson

Albemarle Jany 26. 1799.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 3d reached me yesterday as did likewise that of Dr. Bache mentioned in yours. I shall do every thing in my powers to fulfill the Drs. Wishes & hope to procure him a settlement in our neighbourhood, such as he will approve. The plan you suggest for negotiation with the parties having land for sale is judicious & shall be followed. Tho' I fear the price of each will be high & that it will not be easy to lessen it with either. I wish also that Baynham cod. be added to our circle, as the acquisition of him wod. be important in many respects, nor shall I fail to invite him by such services as I can render. The enterprise of Logan with its consequences will not hurt any in his political sentiments, while the attempt to make it instrumental to that end will have its advantages. The ill humour shewn by the head and all the members of the opposit party, at an interference forbidden by no law, prompted by benevolent motives & wh. was useful to the publick, is a circumstance wh. will tend to shew the views of that party. The longer therefore the debate is kept up on the resolution, and the greater the zeal of its friends the better the effect, since at best it is legislating on an abstract principle agnst the force of a president shewing the folly of the law. I recd. by the post a letter of wh. I subjoin a copy, because as I recd. &

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opened several at the same time. I cannot say whether it came endorsed or otherwise. If in the latter mode

as it had inscribed on the seal "Directoire Executif" it may have attracted the attention of those in office & became the subject of animated action. If this shod, be the case you will use it as you thing fit. We are all well & write in wishes for yr, welfare.

RC (Jefferson Papers, Library of Congress).